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Austria

FDD Abstract [REDACTED]

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25X1X INFORMATION ON THE SMV AND OROP (3 pp; [REDACTED])

This typed document is a report on the SMV (Soviet Petroleum Administration) and the OROP (Petroleum Distributing Agency?) in Austria, which contains the following information:

The SMV, a production firm for the Zisterdorf petroleum region which supplies the Korneuburg, Lobau, Schwechat, and Moosbierbaum refineries, accumulates enormous quantities of crude fuel oil, a residue of the refining process. No market can be found for this fuel oil, which is usable for heating purposes, because there are very few plants in Austria which, at the present time, are operated on oil heat. Pits, 2 kilometers long, several hundred meters wide and 10 meters deep, had to be dug to bury the crude fuel oil. This by-product cannot be shipped out of Austria because its low value would not compensate for the high transportation costs, and furthermore, special tankers, with heating coils and filler pipe lines equipped with heating apparatus, would be necessary for its transport. Moreover, there are no large, efficient cracking installations in Austria where high-grade lubricating oil or gasoline could be produced from the crude fuel oil. It is stated that instead of burying and destroying it, the Soviets should have at least given it to Austria, after having confiscated all of that country's oil sources. The physical properties of the crude oil are described, which reveal that it cannot be conveyed via pipe lines unless heated to 45-70 Degrees Centigrade; since the Danube tankers are equipped only for the shipment of gasoline and gas oil, there are no adequate facilities for its shipment.

The OROP is the sales and storage firm for the SMV; the two organizations are completely separate from one another, both physically and administratively. OROP's cost prices (in schillings per ton) in February 1951 are listed for gasoline, petroleum, gas oil, crude oil, and crude fuel oil. Since 1945, when the Soviets took over the administration of petroleum, there have been no new investments in either the OROP installation or the SMV refinery in Lobau. Only those repairs essential for the continuation of production were made, and none of the bomb-damaged installations have been reconstructed nor has the debris been cleared away. A detailed description is given of the strict security system at the OROP and SMV installations in Lobau. Most of the refinery installations, including the gasoline and oil storage tanks, are underground. The report ends with miscellaneous bits on information on the Lobau refinery; transport of workers to and from plant, payment of Austrian employees, etc.

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